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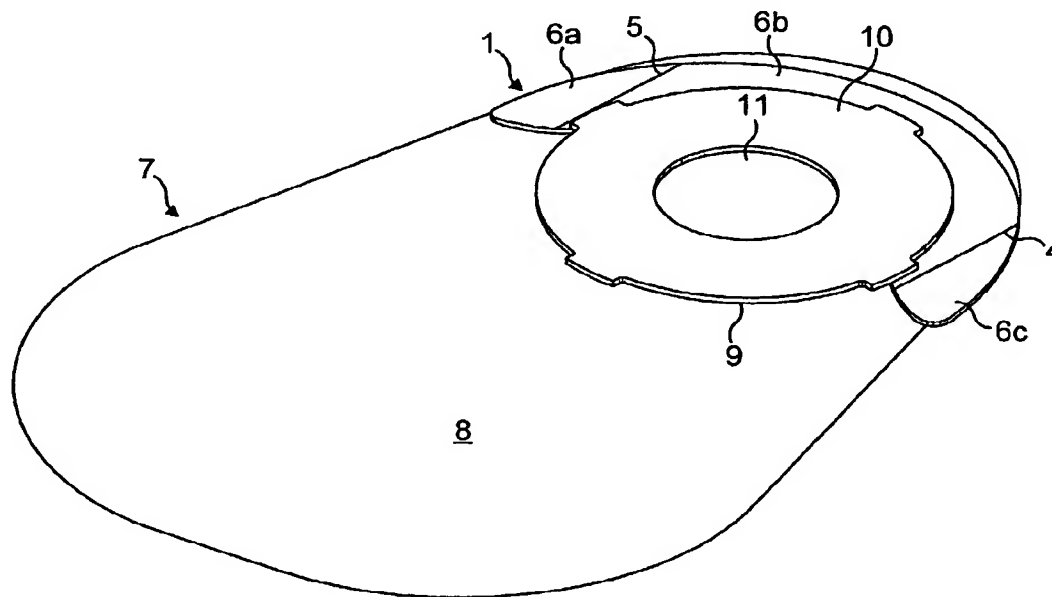
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(54) Title: A SUPPORT FOR AN OSTOMY BAG



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a support (1) for an ostomy bag (7), the support extending the flange of the ostomy bag to reduce the risk of leakage. The support (1) is formed of a hydrocolloid layer (2) shaped to fit around a flange (9) of the ostomy bag. The support can be fitted to the flange at any appropriate location enabling the flange to be supported at the point at which it is prone to failing on a particular wearer.



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AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 14 July 2004 (14.07.04);
original claims 1-6 replaced by amended claims 1-6 (2 pages)]

1. An ostomy bag (7) comprising a flange (9) to mount the ostomy bag on a wearer and sealing means (10) for adhering and sealing the ostomy bag, via the flange, to the wearer, characterised in that the ostomy bag further comprises an additional support (1) for the ostomy bag (7) comprising a layer of hydrocolloid (2) shaped to fit around and radially extend a selected portion of the flange (9) of the ostomy bag.
2. An ostomy bag as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the layer of hydrocolloid (2) is self-adhesive on one side.
3. An ostomy bag as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the said self-adhesive side of the hydrocolloid layer (2) is covered by a release paper (5) arranged to be removed prior to use.
4. An ostomy bag as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the hydrocolloid layer (2) is semicircular.
5. An ostomy bag as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the support (1) is arranged to cooperate with a similar support (1) to form a collar extending around the complete circumference of the flange (9).
6. A method of securing an ostomy bag to a wearer, the method comprising obtaining an ostomy bag with a flange having a standard seal for mounting and sealing the ostomy

bag to the wearer, the method being characterised in determining where the standard seal is likely to fail and applying an additional support comprising a layer of hydrocolloid shaped to fit and radially extend a selected portion of the standard flange of the ostomy bag.